Pacific School of Religion, 1798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley, Calif.

The Pacific

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE SECTION

THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The first day of August saw a good ttendance at Asilomar for the open- ıg sessions of the joint conferences nd the attendance maintained a fair- even average throughout. The din- ıg room showed just about an even 00 daily from start to finish. The en- ollment of adults was 133 and of oung people 108. There were a num- er who camped outside the grounds, ut most of them paid the registra- ion fees and followed the sessions ith interest.

The program was of high order. he messages were warm hearted, orcefully delivered and effective. One an hardly pick out the high spots in program so well conceived. From utside the conference boundaries we elcomed and appreciated the serv- ces of Dr. Frank Dyer, fraternal dele- ate from the southern conference; Dr. harles C. Merrill of the Commission n Missions, Dr. Robert W. Gammon f the Education Society, Dr. W. W. illard, who serves as a pastor at arge, nationally, and Rev. Laurance . Cross of Northbrae Community hurch, Berkeley. The mission books ere taught by most competent in- tructors, namely, Prof. Kenneth J. aunders of the Pacific School of Re- igion and Dr. Obed S. Johnson of tanford University.

Local speakers gave a splendid ac- ount of themselves and we record ith hearty appreciation the addresses f Mr. Cookman, Mr. Whitaker, Rheba rawford and Judge Thompson. Spe- ial mention should be made of the unday morning service with the com- elling sermon of Dr. Gill, the in- piring communion service conducted y Clarence H. Stevens and the re- arkable Fellowship service con- ucted by Dr. Noel Breed. Mr. David . Dexter was a capable presiding of- cer and gave a strong Moderator's ad- ress. Mrs. Hodgdon, with the aid of rs. Stark, made music an attractive art of the conference, while the Ala- eda Players Club both entertained nd inspired the audience with the lay "Friends of Jesus." The Forum as worthwhile and enlivened a morn- ng hour as Messrs. Matthews, Breed nd Cleaves showed how to "Get mpty Souls Into Empty Pews." The orum idea proves a safety valve and hould be encouraged as an occasional eature. The Candle Light Service as enjoyed by the adults this year nd left a pleasant memory.

The Young People's Conference is eing reported by Mr. (Jerry) Holmes, ho was more popular than ever. The oint arrangement for meeting was so ery satisfactory this year that with- ut debate, as well as with hearty nthusiasm, it was voted to continue for another year and about the same eek. While the adult conference is ot as large as formerly, the results re fully as good and the conviction is rowing that we should not separate ur youth from their elders in these onference periods.

The new Moderator is Rev. Hugh ernon White of Stockton. The new resident of the Board of Directors is ev. Fred W. Morrison of San Jose. iss Helen Perkins was elected as ssistant Moderator and Dr. Chauncey awkins was elected preacher for 928. The main item of business and he most absorbing was the adoption of three new sets of by-laws, bringing all three societies, namely, the North- ern California Congregational Confer- ence, the Congregational Home Mis- sionary Society and the Congregational Ministers' Relief Society into more harmonious relations with a uniform terminology. Hereafter all three boards will use "Board of Directors," where formerly the terms were "Trus- tees" in one instance and "Directors" in another. These new by-laws will be printed in the next issue of the min- utes and will be ready this fall.

Under the new by-laws we have re- stored the rotation of directors, which means the going out of several who had filled the full term. Those who retired were Messrs. Dexter, Hyde, Giffen, Gill ,and elected in their places were Messrs. Day, Papazian, Leet and Mrs. Ferrier. This gives the Board of Directors three women: Mrs. Ferrier, Mrs. Swartz and Mrs. Helfer, all three of the women being on the Executive Committee. Rev. William E. Eckles was re-elected as Assistant Superin- tendent and the board re-elected Mr. F. P. Cole as treasurer. Credit should go to Mr. C. B. Wingate, who served as our auditor and without compensa- tion. It is an arduous piece of work and merits recognition.

We were well handled by the Asilo- mar staff. Under Miss Stanton we find many new arrangements for our comfort. Next year there will be a swimming pool and every effort will be made to adjust menus to serve the many tastes of the large conference gathering. Begin now to plan for our next annual meeting and gather funds to send the young people in increasing numbers.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONFERENCE

The third annual conference of the Congregational Young People of Northern California was held at Asilomar August 1-8 in connection with the Senior Conference. There was a total enrollment of thirty-nine young people of college, and fifty-five of high school age. In addition, a considera- ble number of young people were present for part of the conference. There were fourteen teachers, leaders, and councillors, making a total enrollment of 108.

In the group of registered delegates, twenty-two of the churches of the con- ference were represented. Plymouth, Oakland, sent the largest delegation, with Stockton second. When we con- sider that a relatively small number of our churches send delegates to the Conference, we can see what possibili- ties there are for the future when a larger percentage of the churches come to see the value to their young people, and to the life of the church, in having one or more delegates in at- tendance on the Conference each year.

I wish to express my thanks to the faculty and leaders for their help in making this the most successful of our Conferences thus far. But while thanking them, I know that they all appreciate the privilege they had of teaching, and associating with, the fine group of young people who were pres- ent. Having this fine fellowship with leaders and delegates goes down as one of the great experiences of my life.

Jerome C. Holmes.

SOME SUMMER CHANGES

Dr. Chauncey J. Hawkins opened his work at First, San Francisco, August 1. The church officials ten- dered him and his family a reception on August 5.

Miss Rheba Crawford, who had been supplying First, began work in Fruit- vale on August 1 and has been preach- ing to large audiences at both morn- ing and evening services. She is also taking work at the Pacific School of Religion.

Dr. Noel J. Breed closed his work at Hayward August 21 and began his new pastorate at Petaluma on Aug- ust 28.

Dr. Obed S. Johnson has been asked to serve Hayward as stated supply until a full time pastor be secured. He is giving a course of lectures at Stanford University three days a week on international relations.

Rev. Isaac Cookman, after serving the Sonoma Church for seven years, left the field late in August to take commission under the Home Mission- ary Society to serve Calaveras County, with headquarters at Angel's Camp.

Rev. J. M. Lavender has resigned from the pastorate at Etna Mills, our only church in Siskiyou County, which is federated with the Methodists.

Rev. Godfrey Matthews has resigned from Mission Park Church, San Fran- cisco. He and Mrs. Matthews are driving east in their car, hoping to locate in New England.

Mr. Reg. Fulton, director of recre- ation for the young people at Asilo- mar, has closed his work at our Rich- mond Church to take a position with the Y. M. C. A., and also take courses at the Pacific School of Religion.

Rev. Harry S. McCready has re- signed from Plymouth Church, Oak- land, to accept the St. Lawrence Church in Portland, Maine. On Sep- tember 6 the church is giving a re- ception to Mr. McCready at the home of Mrs. F. M. Burroughs.

Rev. Alan R. Goozee has resigned from Calvary, Oakland, and his place is being taken by Mr. Robert Shaw, a student at the Seminary.

Mr. H. Earl Lee, also a student at the Seminary, is taking the church at Fairfax. He comes from the state of Washington, and has established his family near the church.

It has been a rush season for the Conference office.

THE DAILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS

Year by year we find our churches carrying on the schools, either on their own initiative or in combination with other churches, and with most encouraging results. Elsewhere we are giving reports of two of these summer schools, one in Chinatown and one in Crockett, with the wish that we might print the programs of other successful schools held this year. Our Richmond church in San Francisco, under the leadership of Reginald Fulton, had an attendance of over a hundred, with an excellent staff of teachers and an abundance of enthusiasm. We have heard of other schools, but the details are not at hand. We will welcome such re- ports for our files as we wish to pro- mote this work with new courage another year.

COMING EVENTS

The fall meeting of the Bay Associ- ation will meet at First Church, San Francisco, Tuesday, September 20. A part of the program will be the in- stallation of Dr. Chauncey J. Hawkins, the new pastor of First. It is hoped that the address of the evening will be by Dr. Herman F. Swartz on the "Conference of Faith and Order,' re- cently held at Lausanne, Switzerland

A council has been called by an in- dependent church in Los Gatos ask- ing for admission into the Santa Clara Association, to meet at their church Tuesday, September 6, at 2:30 p. m. This was formerly a Baptist Church that decided to go by itself a number of years ago and now seeks fellowship with us. This paper may go to press before the date set, if not announce- ment of the result will be published.

The church at Campbell plans for a recognition service for its new min- ister, Rev. Joseph H. Bennett, on Thursday, September 15. This will give opportunity for our friends to meet this brother, as well as to en- courage this church in its fall and winter program.

We will soon present a schedule to the churches for groups of mis- sionary speakers that we may reawak- en interest in our annual Every-Mem- ber-Canvass and Missionary Educa- tion. Miss Bertha H. Allen of our Foochow Mission has consented to give us from October 6 to 18. We desire as entertaining churches those who will get out a large group of their own members as well as entertain those who come from adjoining towns. We ask that our women be active in giving Miss Allen a large hearing.

STUDY BOOKS

At their annual meeting at Asilo- mar, the Missionary Education Move- ment voted to close out their book stores, in Los Angeles as well as San Francisco. They felt that their mis- sion in carrying on this work had been accomplished, inasmuch as the churches on the coast are able to get the study books from the various de- nominational book stores.

The Los Angeles book store has practically closed out already, and the San Francisco office will probably be well on its way within a few weeks. We would be glad to receive as many orders as you can send to us at the San Francisco office, prior to the clos- ing. There are also a number of the mission study books of former years which have been marked down in price, if anyone is looking for good reading material without much cost.

There is a probability that head- quarters will be maintained as here- tofore, in San Francisco and Los An- geles, to promote the annual confer- ence at Asilomar, and to advise in matters of literature, the handling of costumes and slides.

MOUNT HERMON—The Federate School of Missions conducted each year at Mount Hermon, by a commit- tee composed of women from the various denominations, on which Mrs. Swartz, Mrs. Wagner and Mrs. May- nard represent the Congregational- ists, held a very successful meeting this year, with a registration of 253, representing 12 denominations. Dr. Wirt was one of the speakers.

THE HIP WO SCHOOL

An interesting experiment has been carried on in Chinatown, San Francisco, during the past year. Four denominations — Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational— have been united in conducting a language school and an evening school. The language school runs daily from 4 to 7 o'clock, caring for school children who desire instruction in the Chinese language, history, geography and classics. The evening school is for those who have to work and wish training in the English language and allied studies.

These schools have had a combined staff of nine regularly employed and trained teachers and they have been under the direction of Professor Tsok San Liu, who is well trained for such leadership. The attendance varies slightly, but has had a well sustained average of 150 to 160 nightly. The school has a budget of about $5,500, with tuition fees running about $1,200 a year, and cost each denomination nearly $1,300, including the necessary equipment and furniture.

In addition to the 10 months' school we carried on a Daily Vacation Bible School for a period of four weeks with 12 paid teachers and three volunteers. The average enrollment was 253 and the average attendance was 224. The hours were 1 to 4 p. m. daily for the four weeks. It covered devotional exercises, Bible story, memory work, health and moral talks, girls' craft, elementary and advanced sewing, boys' craft, drawing, woodwork, radio, airplane models, as well as Chinese cultures, institutions, history and literature.

Owing to the success of the experiment the schools were reopened, with the public school opening and the attendance and interest is even more encouraging than the past year. This is our new contribution to the Oriental work and combines the more or less haphazard smaller denominational schools of recent years. It costs but little more than the older arrangement and is on a higher pedagogical basis and a firmer foundation than hitherto. It also demonstrates the ability of denominational leaders to get together for a worthwhile piece of work. We commend this new order to our missionary organizations who are studying our missionary work. A visit to these schools may be of profit to program workers.

FENCHOW—Rev. Paul Reynolds, who has just recently returned from Fenchow, China, reports as follows on this field:

"The work is going forward at Fenchow. Dr. Watson and Mr. Outerbridge (evangelistic) have been on the job all summer. Miss McConnaughey and others are there now. Things seem to be going along quietly enough. The whole Fenchow field has been districted into nine sub-fields, each under the supervision of a Chinese superintendent. The work, therefore, goes on, whether this or that foreigner happens to be there or not. Indeed these times of trouble and disturbance give greater opportunity for work than ever before."

THE CYCLE OF PRAYER

The Commission on Missions, through its committee on the Prayer Cycle, has prepared a most usable book on prayer for the year beginning June 1, 1927. Such a book distributed widely through the church cannot help but bring new tides of life to it. In its Prayer Cycle, all our work is covered and all the needs of our complex world considered. Copies may be procured through the Conference office at a cost of five cents each in lots of twenty or more. Send for enough to supply your needs, at once, please.

MISSIONARIES RETURNING TO FIELDS

Miss Maryette E. Lum passed through San Francisco the middle of August on her way back to Peking. She reports that the missions are anxious that the teachers return in time for the opening of school, so she and Miss Alice Huggins plan to get there in time. Miss Huggins sailed from Seattle.

Rev. Howard Galt left his family at Claremont and sailed back to China on the same steamer as Miss Lum. Rev. Elmer Galt, following his brother's example, has brought his family to Claremont and established them at Pilgrim Place, and sailed September 3. He was in the Conference office a number of times prior to sailing, and shows great faith in the Chinese working out their troubles in the best way.

Two other families are returning to Japan, Henry J. Bennett is on the Pacific on his way to Tottori, and Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Gillett, with their small son, are on the same steamer, returning to Sendai.

CROCKETT

The Community Church at Crockett, which is federated with the Presbyterians, held another successful Daily Vacation Bible School this year. With an enrollment of 114, of which 45 were girls and 69 boys, they had an average attendance of almost 50 per cent of the enrollment. There were five teachers, including the pastor.

In the memory work, they learned the books of the Old Testament as well as the books of the New Testament, the First and Twenty-third Psalm, besides separate verses, and five of the standard hymns: Onward, Christian Soldiers, Stand Up for Jesus, Jesus Bids Us Shine, Sunbeams, Sweet Story of Old.

The nationalities represented in the school present some interesting facts:

Greek	2
Swedes	2
Hebrews	3
Germans	3
Danes	5
Dutch	3
Russians	2
Spaniards	2
Welsh	7
Scotch	3
Italians	11
Americans	67

PARADISE—The work in this community is on the upgrade. The congregations are excellent, and the attendance at the Sunday School, numbering for the past few Sundays over 100, is becoming a problem, several classes finding it necessary to meet in the open under the trees. This cannot continue after the fall rains begin. Realizing this, the church has launched a movement, now well under way, to provide space not only for these classes, but for other parish needs. The outlook is encouraging. Rev. E. P. Shier is in charge of the work in Paradise.

PALO ALTO—The church and Sunday School picnic at Strawberry Bend was well attended, and the children had a great day of it. Mr. Thorp has had the privilege of receiving a number of substantial people into the church membership. The business district of the city will, ere long, crowd the church out of its present location.

REDWOOD CITY—The pastor, R. J. Currie, and wife were called east suddenly by the death of her father. The services of the church have been continued during their absence, in charge of Rev. B. C. Preston and Rev. E. C. Oakley.

CHURCH PROPERTY

We are grateful to Attorney Samuel J. Jones, of our Richmond Church, for the following information:

"In answer to your inquiry as to whether or not an order of the Superior Court is necessary before selling, mortgaging, encumbering or releasing church property, Section 598 of the Civil Code of California, heretofore controlling this procedure, and which, no doubt, you are familiar with in substance at least, (see below) was repealed April 29, 1927, Stats. 1927, Chapter 843, effective July 31, 1927."

Section 598 of the Civil Code of California provides that before a religious corporation can sell, grant, encumber or mortgage its real estate (that is, the church property) it must first make it appear to the satisfaction of the Superior Court of the county wherein said property is located, that the disposing or selling is for the best interests of the parties concerned. Petition must be filed; it must also be made to appear to the court that the bishop or other ecclesiastical authority of the church, or religious denomination, etc., has been notified in writing of the proposed selling or encumbrancing.

CERES—The churches of Ceres have been having union services this vacation, young people's meeting as well as church services. They have been very successful and varied: Stereopticon song services; question-box meeting; a service with the MEN of the community in charge; one where the young people had full charge; regular preaching services, and two concerts given by the massed choirs of the town. They have proved of real spiritual value, and everyone is asking for an "encore" of the plan next summer.

TRINITY COUNTY—Weaverville is the center of our work in this large field. The pastor and his wife, Rev. and Mrs. W. G. Trower, are making a worthy place for themselves in this parish. Weaverville has shown its appreciation of these workers in their midst by re-decorating and furnishing throughout the manse. Lewiston and Hayfork are the other points in the larger parish, the former only being active at this time.

ETNA—Rev. J. M. Lavender expects to close his pastorate in Etna in October, at the conclusion of his year of service. This church is a federation between the Congregationalists and Methodists. By federation agreement, the next pastor will come from the Methodist group.

BOOK REVIEW

RELIGION IN RUSSIA UNDER THE SOVIETS—Bishop Richard I. Cooke. Abingdon Press. $2.00.

Chapter I gives a rapid and informative sketch of the history of the Russian Orthodox Christian Church from its beginnings, through its troubled and great periods and thus provides a necessary background for the study of the events during the period under special review, 1917-1924, and the consequent strain to which the church was subject with the advent of the Soviet. More than one thousand priests suffered death. "A reign of terror surpassing in its atrocities the hideous nightmare of the French Revolution ensued, committing the church to communism as an article of belief. The writer deals at length with the coup d'etat which resulted in the so-called "Living Church," repudiated and refused recognition by the Russian Church in United States and Canada. People who cherish liberty, life and real religion should read the book.

LOCKEFORD

Rev. John Elliott of Pasadena has accepted a call to the pastorate of this church, and is already on the field. Lockeford is one of our federated churches, and the new pastor belongs to the Methodist ministry.

SACRAMENTO — Mrs. Truman Reeves donated two evergreens for Pioneer Church lot, one in memory of Mr. Truman Reeves and one for Rev. Clarence Reeves, a missionary, who died in China.

BENEVOLENCES
January 1 to August 31

	1926	1927
Adin	160.12	$ 18.27
Alameda—First	315.00	.....
Alturas	30.00	35.00
Angel's Camp	51.40	.....
Antioch	20.00	36.00
Benicia	7.25	37.50
Berkeley—		
Bethany	50.00	58.92
First	4,808.85	4,960.63
North	1,315.54	1,226.60
Park	123.31	87.23
Big Creek	200.00	.....
Campbell	283.04	100.00
Ceres	360.00	345.00
Cloverdale	205.29	166.00
Cotati	.....	41.37
Crockett	87.50	96.15
Etna Mills	17.00	11.58
Eureka	223.34	131.10
Ferndale	25.00	42.50
Fresno—First	565.25	428.39
" —Japanese	.....	20.00
" —Kreuz	100.00	.....
Glen Ellen	5.00	5.00
Grass Valley	127.70	131.37
Guerneville	15.00	.....
Hayward	25.00	50.00
Kenwood	.....	10.00
Lockeford	.....	10.00
Lodi—First	1,025.00	980.00
Martinez	118.63	273.61
Murphys	5.00	5.00
Niles	.....	24.15
Oakland—		
Calvary	80.00	80.00
First	4,536.09	4,270.42
Fruitvale	78.75	28.50
Grace	40.20	.....
Olivet	80.54	95.00
Pilgrim	86.00	130.00
Plymouth	794.42	830.35
Oleander	.....	6.70
Oroville	212.04	6.13
Pacific Grove	371.12	223.92
Palermo	10.00	20.00
Palo Alto	1,050.00	980.00
Paradise	60.00	75.00
Parlier	.....	10.00
Petaluma	726.55	714.30
Pittsburg	68.08	90.83
Porterville	65.00	55.00
Redwood City	600.00	.....
Reedley	10.00	.....
Reno, Nev.	287.79	319.00
Ripon	25.00	15.00
Sacramento	384.27	294.03
Salida	.....	17.00
San Francisco—		
Bethany	175.00	100.00
Chinese	.....	5.00
First	2,100.00	2,100.00
Ocean View	33.23	.....
Richmond	76.27	72.19
San Jose	795.33	729.53
San Leandro	61.69	82.09
San Lorenzo	35.00	.....
San Mateo	352.00	313.65
San Rafael	19.56	7.00
Santa Cruz	650.00	500.00
Santa Rosa	199.33	223.12
Saratoga	588.54	435.05
Sebastopol	6.00	48.00
Sonoma	90.00	138.58
Soquel	45.00	.....
Stockton	1,200.00	1,160.00
Suisun	100.00	60.00
Sunnyvale	140.00	75.00
Tipton	10.20	17.81
Tulare	177.75	180.00
Woodside	111.00	118.50
Miscellaneous	433.60	1,344.00
TOTALS	$27,234.57	$25,302.07

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE SECTION

EVANGELIZATION

The following communications issued recently from the Conference Office:

To the Pastors in the Southern California Congregational Conference, Greetings.

Dear Brethren:

Please find the following enclosures: (1) Letter from the Moderator, Rev. John Gardner, who is now in England. (2) Memorandum by the Moderator for presentation to the Special Committee of Seven. (3) Letter to the Ministers and others by the Committee of Seven.

Rev. Lawrence A. Wilson, pastor of the Mission Hills Congregational Church, San Diego, and a member of the Committee, writes to me as follows, July 14th: "The two suggestions which I have to make to the Special Committee of Seven, and which I regard as fundamental to any program it may adopt, are as follows: That the Conference employ a man to serve the churches as Young People's Secretary and Director of Religious Education, who shall go about among the churches to help solve problems on the ground where they arise.

"That the Committees on Evangelism and Devotional Life and on Religious Education be divorced from the Board of Directors, which necessarily must give primary consideration to financial matters and which manifestly has not the time to devote to these interests which are vital to the spiritual life of the churches."

Here are three quite distinct suggestions from as many members of the Committee. Will you, please, read these suggestions carefully and give me, as soon as possible, your reaction to them and your judgment upon them. While not all of the churches will enter into Fellowship Meetings early in November, nevertheless there seems to me a great advantage in services during the first and second weeks of November, immediately following the meetings of the four local Associations, with program like this: (1) 4:30 to 6:00 p. m., meeting of the officers of the local church for conference with laymen and others expert in church management; (2) 6:00 to 7:15, Fellowship dinner, with discussion of the Every Member Canvass; (3) 7:15 to 8:00, presentation of the need and place of religious education in the local church, presented by experts in the field of religious education; (4) 8:00 to 8:30, sermon of an evangelistic nature by one of our pastors.

If we can secure meetings of this kind in fifty of our churches, with the subjects presented and discussed by selected laymen and pastors, I believe that only good would come from such meetings.

Please be assured of my sympathy with you in your undertakings in the problems which confront you as pastor, and my desire to cooperate with you and to serve you to the fullest extent of my ability and powers. I am glad to accept engagements on week days or Sundays for conferences with church officials, or discussion of religious education program with Church School officials and teachers, to give addresses on work of our conference and upon the missionary enterprises of our National Extension Boards and American Board. I am glad to meet pastors, church officers, and Church School officials and teachers in the office. Invitations are accepted usually in the order of their arrival, special need and opportunity.

With kind regards and all good wishes, I am,

Yours sincerely,

GEORGE F. KENNGOTT, Supt.

Riverside, Calif., June, 1927.

To the Pastors in the Southern California Congregational Conference.

Dear Brethren:

I would gratefully acknowledge the honor conferred upon me by my election as Moderator of the Conference. I pray that I may be worthy of the trust. I should like my year of office to be signalized by a great spiritual movement, which shall effect every church affiliated with us.

To this end, I would urge that we organize a simultaneous campaign of evangelism in every church, such campaign to take place November 6-13. The campaign would demand that in every church a survey should have been made of all unattached families residing in the neighborhood, of all non-members among the present adherents, of all lapsed, aged or infirm members. During the days assigned, these individuals would be visited and and effort made to win them for Christ and the church.

In order to give effectiveness to this campaign, I should like churches to be grouped in units of five or six and I should like to be able to enlist not fewer than twenty of our most effective preachers, together with the most efficient workers in the sphere of religious education. Each week evening of the time specified, there should be church suppers, one in each of the churches united, followed by special discussion of the problems of our Bible schools, particularly along the lines of winning our young people to the church, followed by mass meetings, at which the special preachers would deliver evangelistic sermons.

If my idea commends itself to you, it may be possible for an entire session of the autumnal meeting of your Association to be given up to a discussion of plans and methods.

Whether my suggestion appears practical or not, I hope it will indicate a desire to be of service. I should like to be able to visit every church of our Conference during my year of office. That may prove impossible, but if small groups of churches could get together, I would make it convenient to attend and render such service as may be in my power. As you know, I am just about to start for England. In connection with my trip, I am to attend a conference in Oxford on Christian Experience in the light of Modern Thought, and it may be that I shall learn some things which would prove of help to you and your people. If so, I should be glad to pass them on.

Wishing you every blessing in your work, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

JOHN GARDNER, Moderator.

Memorandum for presentation to Special Committee of Seven:

1. Give direction to churches on method of initiation of members.

2. Advise on preparatory classes, text books, catechisms, etc.

3. The organization of some system, whereby each new member is entrusted to the care of some older and more experienced person, who shall instruct them in the significance of their initiation, such instruction to lead up to an examination corresponding to the methods in vogue in lodges and service clubs.

4. A consideration of essential discipline whereby the standards of church membership shall demand a loyalty not less than that of the service club.

5. The development of some system whereby the movements of members can be reported to pastors in the districts where they have gone to reside, so that they may be guarded from drifting and in the course of time may be transferred.

6. Give direction as to method of keeping files of church members—retired or suspended lists—minimum subscription required per member.

7. Frequency of communion. Is attendance obligatory? Methods of registering attendance.

August 2, 1927.

To the Ministers, Office Bearers, and Members of the Congregational Churches in Southern California.

Dear Brethren:

At the Annual Conference, held at Redlands in May, it became the overwhelming conviction of the delegates that we all ought to devote ourselves more earnestly to bringing men and women, children and youth into active participation and fellowship with our churches. The Conference, by motion made from the floor, adopted this resolution:

"That a Committee of Seven be appointed by the Moderator to promote, in every way through all the officers and agencies of the Conference, the increase of membership in our churches, Sunday Schools and Church Societies, and report at our next meeting."

The following committee was appointed by the new Moderator, Rev. John Gardner: Mr. W. H. Porterfield, chairman; Rev. J. H. Hutchins, Rev. Luther Freeman, Rev. Frank Dyer, Rev. Lawrence Wilson, Rev. Henry K. Booth, Mr. C. E. Spaulding.

We have accepted service as the Committee of Seven, to do everything in our power to make this resolution effective.

Our first request to you is that you arrange for a thorough-going conference in your own parish to consider how you yourselves can carry on your work so as to secure this greater alignment of the people in your vicinity with your church. To build up the churches in living faith, we believe to be the best way to build the Kingdom of God. We hope to send you other suggestions later, but we earnestly ask you to act upon this one now.

With earnest prayer for the blessing of God upon your labors, we are faithfully your servants,

THE COMMITTEE,
W. H. PORTERFIELD, Chairman.

Herewith follows a letter from Rev. Holland F. Burr, pastor of the Oneonta Congregational Church, regarding the suggestions of the Moderator and others:

I strongly commend the stressing of the spiritual note, as distinguished from the note of organizational efficiency as an end in itself, which is evident in the recommendations of Dr. Gardner, Mr. Porterfield, and Mr. Wilson. If our churches can unite upon such an evangelistic emphasis in their fall programs, much good can be accomplished. I should like to have called to the attention of the proper officers or committees of the conference, however, the following facts:

1. Half of our total population consists of children and young people under 25 years of age. See census figures for confirmation. In sheer point of numbers, the young people have a primary claim upon the interest and resources of the church.

2. This half of the population under 25 years of age is by all odds the more approachable half from the point of view of a religious appeal. That is to say, each individual of these millions some time during his first 25 years makes up his mind about the claims of Christ and the church upon him. Every single one during this period either lines up on the side of Christian idealism or fails to do so. Statistical surveys only serve to emphasize this fact. Though they may differ in detail, they agree in essence, and this is what they say: Ninety-two per cent of all church members join the church before they are 20 years of age; 83 per cent of the decisive religious experiences of girls occur between the ages of 11 and 15, of boys between the ages of 12 and 16, etc.

3. Any program of evangelism which attempts to "see things steadily and see them whole" must, therefore, give primary consideration to the evangelism of youth.

4. But youth, strange to say, (at least, youth in America in this year of our Lord 1927) is not to be stampeded into the church by any "campaign" of evangelism. On the other hand, the intellectualism of our "educational" methods has cooled too much the fires of emotion, and has dampened the flaming spirit of youth with respect to the urgency of the claims of the Christian gospel.

5. The leadership in any campaign of evangelism falls upon the pastor of the local church. But many pastors are engrossed largely in the work with and for the adult half of their parishes, and do not understand their young people, or get their point of view. And all of us need help.

I am not going on to recommend a course of procedure. Of course I am not deprecating the attempt to evangelize or reclaim adults. But I should like to set this before the Conference as a primary problem for consideration in the framing of any program of evangelism.

And here is the response of Rev. E. D. Gaylord:

There is value in the fall rallies and conferences, as suggested. To this I would add the further suggestion that each minister call as early as possible in the fall, a conference with all his officers, boards, including their wives or husbands, etc., in which there should be a general discussion of the work of the church during the year, with definite plans for an advance, and objectives for the year. I have always found this exceedingly helpful.

About the evangelistic visitation movement I am a thorough believer in it, but am convinced that it would be a great mistake to try to put it on in November, rather than just preceding the Lenten period in the spring, for the following very definite reasons:

1. The church will not be ready for it in the fall. The fall months are the time for organization, acquaintance, and a marshalling of forces.

2. The fall months are greatly broken into by Thanksgiving, Christmas, and especially the Every Member Canvass. Finances and evangelism do not mix well.

3. The period between New Years and Easter is the psychological time. The church is organized for the new year. It is the flood time of the spiritual life of the church. People have come to look forward to the Easter season as a time of ingathering. They are more free and responsive at that time to such spiritual effort than at any other time.

4. Our denomination would be able to cooperate with the Church Federation in such a Home Visitation Evangelistic Movement as the Federation put on so successfully last year. In

(Continued on Page 4)

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Mrs. A. L. Gillman, Associate Editor.
George F. Kenngott, Associate Editor.

that way we could both help and be helped.

Therefore my suggestions are these:

1. Give the fall months to organization, finances, religious education effort, and in general building up the life of the church, not neglecting, of course, the normal effort to win the new people as they come.

2. From New Years till the beginning of Lent, bend every effort in morning service, mid-week service, through the Sunday School, to prepare the people for a united evangelism, in which a "Win One" movement is combined with a carefully planned visitation of every home connected with the church in any way—Sunday School, Unions and Women's Organizations, attendance, etc.

3. Let the visitation come early in Lent and simultaneously an "enlistment day" be held in the Sunday School, followed by pastor's training classes through Lent.

4. Let the visitation be completed in one week, but followed up through Lent, the whole headed up in reception of members on Palm Sunday.

Such an effort, planned long ahead, carefully and thoroughly carried out, will surely bring results. I know. It brought 110 new members last Palm Sunday.

CALLS

Rev. J. H. Higginbotham, formerly associate pastor of Pico Heights and Hyde Park Churches, has accepted a call to the Willowbrook Church, beginning his pastorate August 1st.

Rev. J. F. Sanders, New South Wales, has been called to Logan Heights Church, San Diego, and began his pastorate July 15th.

RESIGNATIONS

Rev. E. T. MacMahon has resigned from the pastorate of the North Wilshire Church. His resignation takes effect September 1st.

Rev. William I. Newman of Ocean Beach, San Diego, has accepted a call to the Hemet-San Jacinto Church and began his work in the new pastorate on August 1st.

Rev. Charles R. Shatto closed his pastorate of the National City Church August 1st.

Miss Martha Read, who has been acting as supply at the church of Tehachapi during the spring and summer, has resigned, and the church has called Rev. John T. Munton, formerly of Portland, Oregon. Mr. Munton will probably serve Tehachapi and Mojave as a joint pastorate and also conduct services at Monolith.

Rev. J. F. Stoetzel has resigned from the pastorate of the San Ysidro Church.

Rev. T. H. Wright is leaving Lawndale to continue his studies at the University of California, and Rev. O. K. Walker, formerly of the Wilshire Boulevard Church of Los Angeles, has accepted a call to the Lawndale Church.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S TOPICS

The Claremont Conference class on methods, under the direction of Rev. Arthur O. Pritchard, selected a series of topics which might be used by our young people.

This list was made up by selecting a list of 40 from a number of other lists; first submitted to a committee, then selected from this longer list by the class.

1. Is it what you are or what you do that counts?
2. Are missionaries needed in foreign countries any more?
3. What has my church the right to expect of me?
4. What should be the relation between the older and younger generation?
5. What can prayer do for me?
6. Peace and war: What can young people do about war?
7. Should the Bible be taught in schools?
8. Is it always necessary for us to learn by experience?
9. Why should I use my Bible?
10. What girls and boys expect of each other?
11. What is success?
12. How can we know what is right and wrong?
13. What are the real values of church membership?
14. Should boys and girls be judged by the same standard?
15. How do the teachings of Jesus apply to the modern point of view?
16. How far should loyalty to one's family affect his religion?
17. Laws: What should be our attitude toward rules and laws?

Of this list, Rev. Harry Thomas Stock, of the Congregational Education Society, writes:

It is a very enlightening list for two or three reasons. In the first place, topics which were chosen by the group of young people in Florida and in Nebraska were left out of consideration entirely by your group and two or three which the California young people put near the top of the list—for example, peace and war—were almost the last in the list of topics at several of the other conferences. This, of course, indicates the impossibility of developing any set of topics which will create general enthusiasm.

The second interesting fact is that your group seems to be a little older or more advanced in their social interests than a considerable number of our state conferences. I should say that your group and the Florida group, together with that of Connecticut, would be pretty much alike in certain respects, but the majority of our conferences in the Middle West require a little less mature type of material.

There is one encouraging fact in the list so far as this office is concerned, and that is that a very large number of those topics in our mimeographed list which they have approved were either incorporated in our Congregational list or were among those which we intend to list in 1928, whereas none of the interdenominational (Christian Endeavor) topics received favorable action by your group.

THE PACIFIC

Subscriptions are solicited for the Pacific at 25 cents a year, published jointly by Northern and Southern California Congregational Conferences. The paper carries the news and notices for both Conferences and every Congregationalist in Southern California should subscribe. The Northern Conference has fifteen hundred subscriptions, so far we have only two hundred and fifty. Churches are urged to subscribe in bulk. Report church news to the Conference superintendent.

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

Los Angeles Association: With the Neighborhood Church, Pasadena, Tuesday, October 18th.

San Bernardino Association: Yucaipa, Wednesday, October 19th.

San Diego Association: With the Logan Heights Church, Friday, October 21st.

Kern Association: Tuesday and Wednesday, October 25th and 26th, with the Shafter Church.

The following persons are expected from the East for these meetings:

Rev. Brewer Eddy, Secretary of the American Board.

Rev. Malcolm Dana, Secretary Extension Boards for Rural and Village Work.

Mrs. W. W. Ranney, Women's Department, American Board.

CHURCH AND CHURCH SCHOOL MATERIAL

Now is the time for churches and Church Schools to order material for the new year's work, especially for the quarter beginning October 1st. Orders should be made directly to the Pilgrim Press, 19 South La Salle street, Chicago, or through this office. The Conference receives credit through the Pilgrim Press for all orders, whether the material is published by the Pilgrim Press, Scribners, David C. Cook or any other concern. All books other than Church School material should be ordered through the Congregational office, by whomsoever published, in order to have the Conference receive credit.

CHRISTIAN LIFE PROBLEMS

This booklet is to be the basis of all of our fall work and those who use the "Wellspring" topics cannot well get along without it. These topics begin with the one listed for September 18th, and leaders should not delay purchasing the booklet. Copies may be obtained at the Conference Office.

THE CONGREGATIONALIST

In the judgment of many of its readers the Congregationalist has greatly improved during recent months. It is now the denominational organ and every Congregationalist should subscribe, in order to get the latest news and information regarding the progress of the Congregational Churches. Subscribe through this office. Price, $2.75.

DR. CHARLES BURT SUMNER

Dr. Charles Burt Sumner, who was one of the first Congregational home missionaries to come into the then little known West nearly forty years ago, died at his home in Claremont on July 12. Dr. Sumner was revered throughout the West as the founder of Pomona College and the organizer of two Congregational Churches in Southern California; the Pilgrim Congregational Church at Pomona and the Claremont Congregational Church at Claremont.

He was born in Southbridge, Mass., October 7, 1837. His ancestry on both sides were of good New England stock, the men were men of affairs in church and state. He was graduated at Yale College in 1862 and five years later he was graduated from Andover Theological Seminary. Nine months of his life were spent in the service of his country in the Civil War. Before coming to California he was successively pastor at Monson and West Somerville, Mass., and at Tucson, Ariz. For two years he was a student of home missions in Arizona and New Mexico.

In 1886 he came to the far west, settling at Pomona, Calif., and in the same year he was prominent on a committee of Southern California men which organized Pomona College as a Christian institution.

NEW BOOKS

The Hidden Years	$2.00
The Ten Dreams	1.10
Four Minute Talks for Supts	1.00
Parodology	.75
God and the Groceryman	2.00
Dawn	2.50
Borden of Yale '09	2.00
Idealism as a Philosophy	2.50
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Christianity of the Epistles	1.25
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Jesus, Case	3.00
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New Approach in Missionary Ed.	1.75
Our Japanese Friends	.75
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Making of a Modern Mind	5.00
Jesus as a Philosopher	1.00
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Adventures in the Mind of Men	1.50
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We, Lindbergh	2.50
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Sermon on the Mount	1.75
God Is at the Organ	1.50
Philosophy of Personalism	3.50
At the Lord's Table	3.00

SECOND-HAND BOOKS AT HALF PRICE

Life of Wm. Robertson Nicoll — Darlow	$3.50	$1.75
Religion and Rise of Capitalism — Tawney	3.50	1.75
Why We Behave Like Human Beings — Dorsey	3.50	1.75
World and Its Meaning—Patrick	3.50	1.75
Jesus and Our Generation — Gilkey	2.00	1.00
Modern Sunday School — Archibald	2.00	1.00
Present Tendencies in Religious Thought — Knudson	2.00	1.00
Science and the Modern World — Whitehead	2.50	1.25

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Thank Offering Boxes (Baskets) ..... 1c each
Thank Offering Envelopes ..... ½c each
Thank Offering Invitations ..... 70c per 100

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